

April 27, 2000

Mr. G. A. Kuehn, Jr.
Program Director SNEC Facility
GPU Nuclear, Inc.
2574 Interstate Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17110

SUBJECT: PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING LICENSE TERMINATION PLAN FOR THE
SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL CORPORATION FACILITY
(TAC NO. MA8076)

Dear Mr. Kuehn:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is planning to hold a public meeting on the License Termination Plan (LTP) for the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC) Facility (SNEF) at the Saxton Fire Hall located at 8th and Norris Street, Saxton, Pennsylvania 16678 on May 25, 2000, at 7:00 p.m. Please find enclosed a copy of the notice that is being sent to the Office of Federal Register and other forums for publication.

The public meeting is required by 10 CFR 50.82(a)(9)(iii), as amended. The meeting is informational and will include a presentation by the NRC staff on the decommissioning regulatory process. As discussed during my visit to the SNEF on April 10, 2000, you have agreed to give a presentation on your planned activities for license termination. Please plan a maximum of 30 minutes for your presentation. The presentation should be aimed to inform members of the public. A question and answer period will follow the presentations.

We will send you an agenda for the meeting in the near future. If you have any questions concerning this meeting please contact me at 301-415-1127.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Alexander Adams, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Events Assessment, Generic Communications and
Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-146

cc w/encl.:
Please see next page

Saxton Nuclear
Experimental Corporation

Docket No. 50-146

cc:

Mr. Arthur Rone
Vice President Nuclear
Safety and Technical Services
GPU Nuclear Inc.
1 Upper Pond Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Mr. Manuel Delgado
2799 Battlefield Road
Fishers Hill, VA 22626

Mr. Eric Blocher
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Wyomissing, PA 19610

David Lewis, Esquire
Shaw, Pittman, Potts, and Trowbridge
2300 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Mr. David Sokolsky
1000 King Salmon Avenue
Eureka, CA 95503

Mr. Gene Baker
501 16th Street
Saxton, PA 16678

Mr. Dick Spargo
1004 Main Street
Saxton, PA 16678

Mr. Tom Strnad
TLG Services
148 New Milford Road East
Bridgewater, CT 06752

James Fockler, Chairman
Saxton Citizens Task Force
1505 Liberty Street
Saxton, PA 16678

Dr. Rodger W. Granlund
Saxton Independent Inspector
Radiation Science and Engineering Center
The Pennsylvania State University
Breazeale Nuclear Reactor
University Park, PA 16802-2301

Mr. Gareth McGrath
Altoona Mirror
301 Cayuga Avenue
Altoona, PA 16603

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President SNEC
2800 Pottsville Pike
Reading, PA 19640-0001

Mr. G. A. Kuehn, Jr
Program Director SNEC Facility
GPU Nuclear, Inc.
2574 Interstate Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17110

George W. Busch
Nuclear Safety Assessment
Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station
GPU Nuclear Inc.
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Dr. William Vernetson
Director of Nuclear Facilities
Department of Nuclear Engineering
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University of Florida
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Mr. Michael P. Murphy, Nuclear Engineer
Bureau of Radiation Protection
Department of Environmental Protection
13th Floor, Rachel Carson State
Office Building
P.O. Box 8469
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8469

Mr. Jim Tydeman
1402 Wall Street
Saxton, PA 16678

Mr. James H. Elder, Chairman
Concerned Citizens for SNEC Safety
Wall Street Ext.
Saxton, PA 16679

Mr. Ernest Fuller
R.D. #1
Six Mile Run, PA 16679

Saxton Borough Council
ATTN: Peggy Whited, Secretary
9th and Spring Streets
Saxton, PA 16678

Ms. Norma Ickes, Chair
Bedford County Commissioners
County Court House
203 South Juliana Street
Bedford, PA 15522

Mr. Larry Sather, Chairman
Huntingdon County Commissioners
County Court House
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Saxton Community Library
Front Street
Saxton, PA 16678

Carbon Township Supervisors
ATTN: Penny Brode, Secretary
R. D. #1, Box 222-C
Saxton, PA 16678

Hopewell Township Supervisors
ATTN: Sally Giornesto, Secretary
RR 1 Box 95
James Creek, PA 16657-9512

Mr. D. Bud McIntyre, Chairman
Broad Top Township Supervisors
Broad Top Municipal Building
Defiance, PA 16633

Mr. Don Weaver, Chairman
Liberty Township Supervisors
R. D. #1
Saxton, PA 16678

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
ATTN: S. Snarski/P. Juhle
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203

The Honorable Robert C. Jubelirer
President Pro-Temp Senate of
Pennsylvania
30th District
State Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

James J. Byrne
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057

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Docket No. 50-146

cc w/encl.:
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

GPU NUCLEAR CORPORATION

SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL CORPORATION

SAXTON NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL FACILITY

DOCKET NO. 50-146

NOTICE OF RECEIPT, AVAILABILITY FOR COMMENT, AND MEETING TO DISCUSS

LICENSE TERMINATION PLAN

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is in receipt of and is making available for public inspection and comment the License Termination Plan (LTP) for the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Facility (SNEF) located in Saxton, Bedford County, Pennsylvania.

Reactor operations at the SNEF were ended in May 1972. The reactor was defueled and all fuel was removed from the site in 1972. In accordance with NRC regulations in effect at that time, the Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation (SNEC) submitted a decommissioning plan for the SNEF to the NRC in February 1996 [GPU Nuclear Corporation (GPUN) became a co-licensee for the SNEF on May 10, 1996]. When proposed amendments to the NRC's decommissioning regulations were published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on July 29, 1996 (61 FR 39278), the licensee requested that the review of the decommissioning plan be suspended. When the amended regulations became effective on August 28, 1996, the submitted decommissioning plan, as supplemented, became the SNEF Post Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82 as amended. A public meeting was held in Saxton, Pennsylvania on January 28, 1997, to provide information and gather public comment on the PSDAR. Because of restrictions in the license for the SNEF, a license amendment was needed before decommissioning activities could commence. License Amendment No. 15 to

Amended Facility License No. DPR-4 approving decommissioning was issued on April 20, 1998. The facility is undergoing active decontamination and dismantlement.

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.82(a)(9), all power reactor licensees must submit an application for termination of their license. The application for termination of license must be accompanied or preceded by an LTP to be submitted for NRC approval. If found acceptable by the NRC staff, the LTP is approved by license amendment, subject to such conditions and limitations as the NRC staff deems appropriate and necessary. SNEC and GPUN (the licensees) submitted the proposed LTP for the SNEF by application dated February 2, 2000. In accordance with 10 CFR 20.1405 and 10 CFR 50.82(a)(9)(iii), the NRC is providing notice to individuals in the vicinity of the site that the NRC is in receipt of the SNEF LTP, and will accept comments from affected parties. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.82(a)(9)(iii), the NRC is also providing notice that the NRC staff will conduct a meeting to discuss the SNEC LTP on Thursday, May 25, 2000, at 7:00 p.m. at the Saxton Fire Hall located at 8th and Norris Street, Saxton, Pennsylvania 16678.

The SNEF LTP and associated environmental report are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, at 2120 L Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20037. They are also available through <http://www.nrc.gov/OPA/reports> under "What's New on This Page," "Decommissioning," or "Other Documents."

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Ledyard B. Marsh, Chief
Events Assessment, Generic Communications
and Non-Power Reactors Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation